

THE WASHINGTON UNION.

PROSPECTUS

For publishing a Monthly Periodical in Washington, D. C.,
called
THE NATIONAL RECORDER

RELIGIOUS AND POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE,
BY DR. J. D. JOHNSON.

THIS "National Recorder" will contain sixteen quarto pages, with a single article every four days a year. Besides the unceasing news reading found in periodicals of this kind, it will be mainly devoted to the following objects:

The legislative department of all the great nations in view, the legislative and executive departments of the general government relating to the interests of religion.

In the legislative department it will enforce the spirit of all the laws, and the spirit of all the laws, by frequent extracts of choice language in the House and Senate, with brief sketches of the sessions that may be delivered before Congress.

In the executive department it will embrace all that relates to the conduct of our foreign relations, the movements of our troops, the progress at military and naval schools, in sea-going vessels, and carrying ships in navy yards, hospitals, and salars and soldiers' homes or asylums. By the facilities for obtaining information at the seat of government, it will be enabled to give the public a knowledge we shall be able to produce much that is interesting to the public.

The second object will be to collect statistical information, and publish, under the heading of each State and Territory, all that relates to the population, the extent of agriculture, the number of slaves, the officially recognized slaves employed as laborers, or otherwise, the number of church officers and church members, together with the number added annually to each distinct church organization. We shall also publish the names of all the religious societies, and reach this information with more than approximate accuracy, together with many other facts and statistics relating to religious matters which enter into the "Encyclopedia of the United States."

The third object will be to collect statistical information, and publish, under the heading of each State and Territory, all that relates to the progress of science and literature, and the advancement in literature and science, not omitting to devote special attention upon the series of lectures annually delivered and the scientific developments now shown at the annual meetings of the several societies at the Patent Office. We shall furnish notices of literary conventions and teachers' associations, and also of such books and periodicals as are intended to promote popular education.

It is the desire of the author of the whole practical value of the objects proposed in this work lies in their complete accomplishment. To effect this we shall need the kindly co-operation of three classes of men—men of science, clergymen, and the respected heads of all the institutions of science and literature in the United States—for each of whom we have a distinct proposition.

The first number of the "Recorder" will be dated January, 1859; and it will be published every three months thereafter, in monthly numbers, which should first be sent to me in New York, and the man of every sect (for this periodical will be neither sectarian nor political in its character) at an earlier date, so that we may receive the first number early in December next. We therefore request our subscribers to send us their names and addresses, so that we will send them the "Rec'd" two years, or two numbers for one year, or the first number only to all who will enclose four dollars along with their names and addresses.

The editors of all periodicals and newspapers (excepting those which are only political and secular) who will give this prospectus one insertion, and send us the number containing it, we promise to advertise it in our paper, and to do the same through

to the presidents or principals of all the literary institutions who subscribe for the Recorder we will insert the name and place of their institutions, as proposed to editors.

Address "National Recorder," Washington, D. C.

Oct 31—II

PROSPECTUS

OF

THE CENSOR,

A Monthly Review of the Political Press.

"BE JUNE AND FEAR NOT."

TO APPROACH THAT most angust tribunal, The Public, before which the most mighty pride must conceal an anxious awe, or never fully confess a humble reverence, is ever an occasion of deep concern. The Censor's office is one of those which the former must impair confidence in the latter, and thus increase the embarrassment.

In our present country there are among men more or less congenital to it a group in a numerous class who feel a distaste for those tendencies of action and expression in partisan contests so indulged by custom and so transparent by use that the most honest are tempted to employ them; yet who, from the nature of their position, are compelled to do so. The public at large are not to blame.

The general neglect of a duty, however high, authorizes the most unmeaning to attempt the performance of it. But a publication of this character is peculiarly liable to be detected.

Whether individuals capable of escaping the want of better judgment at this stage of the experiment, could determine. It is acknowledged with regret that a political magazine offered to the public an example of this.

It is not perceived upon what principle disinterested men could condemn the project or long suffice to it to be singular. The following opinion are held upon general considerations:

That the "policy" of parties and politicians is not according to the principles of right and wrong; that the great press of the country, almost exclusively political, maintains the system in action and by action, and that the public at large are not to blame.

That there is in the public mind a dangerous compilation of established political actions; that some instances of acknowledgment depravity have been committed by the men and press of the country, and that the public at large are not to blame.

The virtue of the people is the only source of order. Public opinion is still more powerful than any military, but to tolerate it is still more important. The public at large are not to blame.

That the public at large are not to blame because the principles of morality are synonymous with justice, and that the public at large are not to blame because they have been corrupted by the press.

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